
CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY of NEW MEXICO

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GROWING SEASONS FOR SUCCULENT FAMILIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Agavaceae

Sansevieria: East Africa to India, summer rainfall zones; little or no snow.

Apocynaceae

Adenium, Pachypodium: Southwest Africa to East Africa, Arabia, primarily in summer rainfall zones; deciduous leaves fall off in winter. Wants to be dry and warm in winter, especially *Adenium* – above 60°F.

Asclepiadaceae

Brachystelma, Ceropegia, Fockea, Raphionacme: Underground caudex growing in the summer; in winter all leaves fall off. Keep dry until new growth starts.

Caralluma, Duvalia, Echidnopsis, Hoodia, Huernia, Stapelia, etc.: Most active time is warmest part of summer, with flowering in late summer into fall; keep dry in cool part of year.

Compositae

Othonna: Southwest Africa, winter growing caudiciforms; keep totally dry in summer; in fall leaves appear. Water in cool half of year.

Senecio: Very widespread with diverse growing habits.

Crassulaceae

Adromischus, Cotyledon, Crassula, Tylecodon: Grow primarily in winter rainfall regions, and often grow in rock cracks or very rocky soil. Many are spring-fall grow, dry winter and summer.

Cucurbitaceae

Gerrardanthus, Kedrostris: Mostly grow in eastern Africa in summer rainfall regions. The caudex has a deciduous vine that appears in early summer and dies back in early fall. They like infrequent deep soaking waterings.

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia, Jatropha, Monadenium: Widespread in very diverse climatic zones, but most can be grown from late winter to fall. During extreme heat of summer, most kinds will rest.

Geraniaceae

Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon: Primarily come from winter rainfall regions and leaf out and start growing in late summer when the heat has passed. They grow until late winter when the days get longer and it warms up.

Liliaceae

Aloe, Astroloba, Gasteria: Mostly summer growers, not strict.

Bulbine, Haworthia: Grow primarily in the fall and winter. Haworthias like to be dry in winter and summer; grow (water) in spring and fall.

Mesembryanthemaceae

Delosperma, Lampranthus: Shrubbies, grow when moisture is available.

Frithia, Aloiopsis, Faucaria, Lithops, Dinteranthus, Pleiospilos, etc.: Mainly grow in summer rainfall regions where rainfall is very scattered and will grow when moisture is available. They should be grown to be kept compact and rather tight.

Conophytum, Ophthalmophyllum, Sphalmanthus: More strict fall-to-winter growers, respond to cool temperatures, short days, and frequent light waterings.

Moraceae

Dorstenia: Eastern Africa to Arabia, summer growers, respond to heat and humidity; all leaves drop off in fall when it cools down.

Passifloraceae

Adenia: From eastern Africa in summer rainfall areas, with winter deciduous leaves.

Portulacaceae

Anacampseros: Primarily from winter rainfall zones and found in very rocky situations.

Vitaceae

Cyphostemma: Aboveground caudex from summer rainfall regions. The huge leaves appear in spring when it warms up. Then in autumn they all dry up and fall off. Keep dry in wintertime.